

# Jacumba Sponsor Group Draft General Meeting Minutes Of 10-23, 2012

## MEETING PRELIMINARIES

- Mark Ostrander called the meeting to order at 6:02PM.
- Mark asked that all Cell Phones and Pagers be silenced and then led the pledge of allegiance.
- Mark called the roll: Shirley Fisher (present), Howard Cook (present), Steve Squillaci (present) Mark Ostrander (present), and Pat Fauble (present).
- Mark announced that there was a quorum.

## OLD BUSINESS

- **Minutes of Last Meeting** – There was one minor correction of the minutes. Mark moved to accept the minutes as amended. Pat seconded the motion. Motion to accept the minutes was passed unanimously.
- **Tumbleweed issue**-Lorrie Ostrander distributed an email on tumbleweed removal from Herman Reddick (Group Program Manager-SD County Public Safety Group). Mr. Reddick wrote at the request of SD County Supervisor Diane Jacob and Chief Administrative Officer Walt Ekard. Mr. Reddick stated that he had inspected the property in question and because the tumbleweeds are still green there was no violation of Public Resource Code 4291 or the California Fire Code, Cal Fire does not believe they pose a fire hazard at this time. He wrote that CAL FIRE staff will continue to monitor the area to ensure compliance for hazard reduction. It was noted that the County has cleared the tumbleweeds located on the side of Old Highway 80.  
**Action Item:** Bill Pape will email the address of Jacumba Valley Ranch to Lorrie Ostrander so she can write a letter to them requesting removal of the tumbleweeds on their property.

## NEW BUSINESS

- **Jacumba Name Change**-There is a small hitch in getting the name changed. There are no official maps that show the name Jacumba Hot Springs, just an old subdivision plan. Because of this there is resistance from other departments. Several participants stated that the name Jacumba Hot Springs was on their tax bills or grant deeds. **Action Items:** 1) Mark Ostrander asked that everyone send him photocopies of any tax bill or grant deeds containing the Jacumba Hot Springs name (sensitive info could be blacked out) either the email or snail mail. 2) Howard Cook was to contact Mitch Beecham (Jacumba rail station) to see if he has any signs or information. 3) Ben Schultz will check his books at Desert View Towers to see if he can find anything.

## CORRESPONDENCE

- Mark received a memo from the County regarding the County Supervisor's meeting on Wednesday, October 31<sup>st</sup> to give a preliminary vote on the new eye gnat ordinance. Bill Pape and Danielle Cook stated they would be there to speak in favor of the ordinance
- Mark announced that the next meeting with Supervisor Jacob would be January 10 2:30-4:30 in Campo. The meetings are open but follow strict time parameters.

## UPDATES AND POTENTIAL ACTION ITEMS

- **Border Patrol Update** Not present

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- **Sheriff Update** –Not present
- **SD Gas and Electric** (Not Present) No report
- **Revitalization update**
  - **Lake Committee** –Danielle Cook informed group that Cameron Durkel said there would be some money for the Lake restoration based upon the submitted grant. The person at SDGE that administers the grant money was due back from vacation week of 10/15 and Danielle said she would follow up. No dollar amount was given. Howard Cook mentioned that the Tri-color Blackbirds were back in force and that the lake seemed to be really attracting birders
  - **Art's Council**- will be holding a Art Show and Festival on Saturday, October 27<sup>th</sup> 1PM-5PM with the Women's Club offering baked goods for sale. Local artists are being featured. Danielle Cook passed out fliers and urged everyone to attend
  - **Spa**-Work is delayed because the County is asking that for Spa waters to be chlorinated. It was noted that the high PH of the water and sulphur content would negate any impact of chlorine. The State said the spa could be exempt and Dave Landman is working with San Diego County to hopefully resolve the issue.
  - **Chinese Castle**-Cherry Deifenbach was commended for all the work she has done to restore the Chinese Castle. It will be a nice tourist draw and it looks great.
  - **Dwayne Zugal** (Owner of the Jacumba Lounge) reported on the business the community recently received from a movie crew shooting a movie in our area. He has many connections in Hollywood and feels we need to market Jacumba and its surroundings to the film Location people. Danielle Cook stated that she had spoken to another Jacumba resident (Tim Barnett) as he was a great photographer who could provide pictures that could be used to solicit this type of business. Tim, who was an extra in a past movie that was shot in Jacumba said he was willing to help. It was agreed that this was a good project but should fall under the Revitalization committee. Dwayne agreed to serve a chair for a sub-committee to pursue this and Danielle Cook, Myra and Bob Price, stated they would also serve on the sub-committee
- **Boulevard, Jacumba, La Posta Fire Safe Council and CERT by Tammy Daubach**
  - Name has been changed to the Real East County Fire Council and now includes Lake Morena and Campo. The next meeting will be on October 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 in the Boulevard F.D. Training Room. Chief John Francois should be available to answer any questions. We will be accepting nominations for the Fire Safe Council Board. If you or someone you know wants to join the Fire Safe Council, come to this meeting! The only qualification is to be a resident of Boulevard, Campo, Jacumba, La Posta, or Lake Morena.
  - Council is currently negotiating with CalFire on how to get fire/evacuation/road closure information out locally.
  - The SRA Fire Fees are being received in our area. A petition form is available. The petition form should be mailed in with your check. I have copies available.
  - The Campo Fire Auxiliary is selling calendars from October 2012 – December 2013. They contain local events and are \$15.00 each.

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- Those who signed up at the Fall Festival for evacuation kit lists, there is a delay as the list is undergoing revisions.
- Fire Safe/Public Strategies/Mountain Empire Collaborative held a joint project at the Jacumba Middle School. The workshop was on the drugs known as 'bath salts' and 'spice'. 28 people filled out further information forms. Since the event competed with rain, football, and the Presidential debates, this was a pretty good turnout for the event. There is a calendar available for sale (\$15) by the Campo Fire Axillary. All proceeds go to the Fire Axillary.
- \$150 Fire Assessment- There was also another conversation on the petition to overturn the new \$150 fire assessment fee the State is imposing. This is an egregious new tax foisted only on California rural citizens. The petition is 4 pages and not everyone has reviewed yet. By signing the petition and including it with your payment you would be putting State on notice that you wanted a refund should the \$150 tax be repealed by the courts. The petition can also be downloaded from the Howard Jarvis Taxpayer's Association web site.
- **Action Item:** Cherry will put an article in Pine Valley View so that others will see what to do
- **CERT-**Now has four certified EMR from Jacumba and one from Boulevard.

### **NON-AGENDA PRESENTATIONS FROM THE FLOOR**

- Cherry Diefenbach asked why the Old Highway 94 and 80 Passport (Cars) event. The cars stopped in Boulevard but did not come to Jacumba as they used to. Lorrie stated it was because the Spa was not open but they did indicate they would come next year.
- Ben Shulz of the Desert View Tower stated that he had seen an increase in vagrancy in the community. Crime statistics are also up. In addition, we have no sheriff or law presence after 10PM. Ben suggested we go to Dave Landman or other empty storefront owners to see if they would be willing to let the Sheriff use the storefront as an office for filling out paperwork out of the cold. Ben would be willing to provide the desk, coffee pot light and chair. This would give sheriff higher visibility to the community which generally discourages crime.
- Mark Ostrander reminded everyone that we have a Neighborhood Watch program but it was not receiving significant support from the community. He said he sent out notices via email prior to scheduled quarterly meetings and suggested we attend the next one.
- Mark Ostrander also discussed why our fire rating is 9 (10 being the highest) and why it keeps going up even though Jacumba is not a fire risk zone such as Boulevard. The Border is part of the reason but the biggest reason is that the Insurance companies lump all back country areas together whether they are a lower fire risk or not.
- Mark Ostrander and Steve Squillaci announced that they were stepping down from the Sponsor Group effective 12/31/12. This would leave two positions open beginning 2013. Mark said that until the County received the letters of resignation, no one new could apply.

**Meeting was Adjourned at 7:07 PM. Next Meeting –November 27 at 6:00 pm at the Jacumba Library.**

Respectfully submitted by,  
Howard Cook-Sponsor Group Board Member and Secretary